

REMARKS

This Reply is in response to the Final Office Action dated October 2, 2003. This Reply is filed along with a Petition for Extension of Time for one (1) month along with an authorization to charge the required statutory fee.

Claims 56-84 and 128-131 were pending at the time of the Final Office Action. In the Office Action, claims 56, 57, 60-68, 76-84, 128 and 131 were rejected. Claims 58, 59, 69-75, 129 and 130 were objected to as being dependent on rejected base claims, but were determined to be allowable if written in independent form incorporating all limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening dependent claims.

In this Reply, claim amendments herein are limited to only rewriting objected to claims 58 and 69 in independent form and adjusting claim dependencies based on claim cancellations. Specifically, former claim 58 has now been written in independent form by adding the encasement layer limitation to claim 56, while claims 58 and 59 have been cancelled. The dependency of claim 65 has been changed from claim 58 to claim 56. Former claim 69 has now been written in independent form. Claims 132 and 133 have been added. Claim 132 now depends on amended claim 56 and further recites the specific thermal conductivity limitation recited in claim 69. Claim 133 is now dependent on claim 69 and further recites the encasement layer recited in amended claim 56. No new matter has been added.

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. However, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic

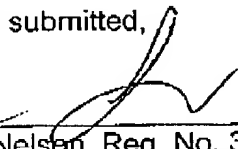
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interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

1/29/04



Gregory A. Nelson, Reg. No. 30,577
Neil R. Jetter, Reg. No. 46,803
AKERMAN SENTERFITT
222 Lakeview Avenue, Suite 400
P.O. Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000

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